(b) if so, what decision has been taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

Merger of HCI and ITDC

1879. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Committee on Tourism has recommended the merger of Hotel Corporation of India and Indian Tourism Development Corporation; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In order to ensure coordinated operations and a more extensive and well integrated accommodation network the National Committee on Tourism has recommended the merger of Hotel Corporation of India with the India Tourism Development Corporation. No decision on the proposal has been taken by the Government.

Removal of sex bias from text books

1880. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA:
SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA:
SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to remove sex bias from the educational curriculum educational programmes and text books as reported in the news of the Hindustan Times dated the 10th June, 1988;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether the NCERT has taken any action in this direction; and

(d) what guidelines have been issued to the State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The National Policy on Education 1986 reiterates equality of sexes. To achieve this objective, among others, the National Council of Educational Research and Training has developed a national curricular frame-work. The National Council has taken several steps in this regard. Under a scheme sponsored by NCERT for the reorientation of the content and process of education, financial and academic assistane is being extended by NCERT to the State Textbook Boards, State Councils of Educational Research and Training, Boards of Secondary Education and other bodies for reviewing the existing textbooks and also for the preparation of revised manuscripts in conformity with the National Policy on Education and the National Curricular Framework circulated by NCERT. NCERT has undertaken the following academic activities for removal of sex bias from the school textbooks and other instructional materials:

(i) Development of tools for evaluation;

(ii) Evaluation of gradewise and subjectwise textbooks;

(iii) Preparation of curricular and supplementary material projecting the desired status of women